

A NEW SPECIES OF STRIGODERMELLA.

(Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae.)

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The following species is included in the Kansas lists of Coleoptera as *Strigoderma pygmaea* (Fab.) and is probably confused with that species in collections.

Strigodermella knausi n. sp.

Male: Length 6-6.7 mm.; width 3.1-3.6 mm. Similar to *Strigodermella pygmaea* (Fab.) in form and coloration. Shining; head, thorax, and scutellum piceous with distinct violaceous or greenish luster, the thorax usually with a pale area on each side near anterior angle; elytra varying from flavo-testaceous with suture and external margins narrowly piceous to piceous with one subapical and one or two sub-basal flavo-testaceous spots; under surface piceous, the legs usually somewhat paler; body clothed with moderately long, greyish hairs.

Head slightly more than half as wide as the pronotum; with a few hairs near the eyes; coarsely, roughly, and confluent punctured except on the vertex where the punctures become separated. Clypeus trapezoidal, the angles rather broadly rounded, the margins rather strongly reflexed, the suture distinct. Eyes moderate, not prominent. Antennal club equal in length to the entire stem.

Pronotum one-third wider than long, widest in front of middle, sides feebly converging to base, the basal angles obtuse but narrowly rounded; sides more strongly converging apically, the anterior angles prominent and subacute; base broadly lobed medially. Pronotal bead coarse and entire. Pronotal surface moderately convex, sparsely hairy, and microscopically alutaceous; an inconspicuous, shallow depression on each side; the punctures large and shallow, and with the bottom of each roughened by several very fine punctules; puncturation not close except on a large area just mesad the lateral depression where the puncturation is confused by fine and dense secondary punctures which are very sparse or absent on the other portions of the disk; a rather closely punctured line extending meso-caudad from each lateral depression to median area near base; median line very feebly impressed on about apical half, more closely punctate than adjacent portions of disk. Scutellum coarsely, not closely punctate.

Elytra as wide as length of elytral suture, slightly wider than the pronotum, very broadly rounded at apex, the sides feebly arcuate; a few very inconspicuous hairs near lateral margin and on basal third. Elytral striae broad, feebly impressed, five in number between suture and humeral umbone, those laterad the humeral umbone confused; punctures of striae coarse, very shallow and rather closely placed. Interspaces moderately convex, irregular in width but always wider than the striae, impunctate.

Pygidium tumid subcentrally; sparsely hairy; the sculpture concentric, shallow, not close, and subrugosiform. Under surface of thorax more conspicuously hairy; finely, densely, and intricately sculptured. Intermesocoxal space strongly convex, slightly tumid. Under surface of abdomen with only a few hairs; coarsely, shallowly, not closely punctate. All femora and tibiae coarsely and sparsely punctate; the tooth of the anterior tibia acute, prominent; larger claws of anterior and middle tarsi cleft, the upper rami very small and slender.

Genital armature symmetrical; length 1.7 mm.; dorsal aspect of claspers triangular in outline; each clasper about twice as long as its width at base, the sides nearly straight.

Female: Unknown.

Holotype. Male: "Medora, Ks.; W. Knaus; June."

Paratypes. 19 males: "Rago, Kingman Co., Kan.; June; W. Knaus." 10 males: "Medora, Kans., Sand Hills; June, 1923; R. H. Beamer."

Holotype and some paratypes in the collection of Mr. Warren Knaus; other paratypes in the collections of the University of Kansas, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, and in that of the author.

S. knausi has the form and general appearance of *S. pygmaea* (Fab.). Its larger size and coarser pronotal puncturation, however, serve to distinguish it from *pygmaea* and from the doubtfully valid *S. floridana* (Ohaus) also, judging from the description of the latter. Although the pronotal puncturation of *pygmaea* is variable, the coarser thoracic punctures in that species are never large, subcircular, shallow, and with flat and roughened bottoms as in *knausi*. The male genital armature of *knausi* differs from that of *pygmaea* only in size, that of the former being slightly larger.

Mr. Knaus has informed me that the Rago specimens were "taken some fifteen years ago by sweeping grass in the early evening."